

6-18-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Sheri L. Zimmel, et al.

Serial No. 09/905,762

Filed: July 14, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
OPTIMIZING TELECOMMUNICATION  
NETWORK DESIGN USING WEIGHTED  
SPAN CLASSIFICATION FOR HIGH  
DEGREE OF SEPARATION DEMANDS



Group Art Unit: 2643

Examiner: Unknown

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449. No inference should be made that the cited references are in fact material, are in fact prior art, or that no better art exists. The cited patents are listed in numerical order and are not in any order based on their pertinence. Copies of the listed information are attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the United States filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required (37 CFR §1.97(b)).

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-1394.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature of Andrew S. Ehmke.

Andrew S. Ehmke  
Registration No. 50,271

Date: 6/4/03  
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File: 30749.14  
D-1131768.1

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Patents, Washington, DC 20231

on June 4, 2003  

A handwritten signature of Kathy Mette.

Kathy Mette

Signature

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SHEET	1	OF	2	Technology Center 2600
			Attorney Docket Number	30749.14

## **OTHER PRIOR ART**

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city/country where published
	AV	COSARES, SANIEE, and WASEM; <i>Network Planning with SONET Toolkit</i> ; Bellcore Exchange September/October 1992, Pages 8 – 13.
	AW	ONDRIA J. WASEM; <i>An Algorithm for Designing Rings in Communication Networks</i>
	AX	SUJATA BANERJEE and VICTOR O. K. LI; <i>Order-P: An Algorithm to Order Network Partitionings</i>
	AY	TSONG-HO WU and RICHARD C. LAU; <i>A Class of Self-Healing Ring Architectures for SONET Network Applications</i> ; IEEE Transactions on Communications; Vol. 40, No. 11, November 1999.
	AZ	J.B. SLEVINSKY, W.D. GROVER, and M.H. MACGREGOR; <i>An Algorithm for Survivable Network Design Employing Multiple Self-Healing Rings</i>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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## **U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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**OTHER PRIOR ART**

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Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city/country where published
	BA	Depth First Search; <a href="http://hissa.nist.gov/dads/HTML/depthfirst.html">http://hissa.nist.gov/dads/HTML/depthfirst.html</a> ; September 22, 2000
	BB	Breadth First Search; <a href="http://hissa.nist.gov/dads/HTML/breadthfirst.html">http://hissa.nist.gov/dads/HTML/breadthfirst.html</a> ; September 22, 2000
	BC	JOHN F. DILLENBURG and PETER C. NELSON; <i>Improving the Efficiency of Depth-First Search by Cycle Elimination</i> ; <a href="http://www.ai.uic.edu/~dillenbu/papers/cycle2.html">http://www.ai.uic.edu/~dillenbu/papers/cycle2.html</a> ; September 22, 2000
	BD	<a href="http://www.markwatson.com/opencontent/aisearch/DepthFirstSearch.java">http://www.markwatson.com/opencontent/aisearch/DepthFirstSearch.java</a> ; September 22, 2000
	BE	<i>Depth first vs. Breadth first search</i> ; <a href="http://www.cee.hw.ac.uk/~alison/ai3notes/paragraph2_6_2_1_0_1.html">http://www.cee.hw.ac.uk/~alison/ai3notes/paragraph2_6_2_1_0_1.html</a> ; September 22, 2000

**Examiner  
Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date  
Considered** \_\_\_\_\_

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